

REGULAR WEEKLY SESSION----ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

May 1, 2006

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in regular session on Monday, May 1, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris and School Board Chair Kathy G. Stockburger presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, City Council, Section 2-15, Rules of Procedure, Rule 1, Regular Meetings, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 37109-070505 adopted by the Council on Tuesday, July 5, 2005.

PRESENT: Council Members Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Brenda L. McDaniel, M. Rupert Cutler and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----5.

ABSENT: Council Members Sherman P. Lea and Brian J. Wishneff-----2.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

The Mayor advised that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct a joint meeting of Council and the Roanoke City School Board.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES PRESENT: Jason E. Bingham, David B. Carson, William H. Lindsey, Alvin L. Nash, Courtney A. Penn, David B. Trinkle and Kathy G. Stockburger, Chair-----7.

ABSENT: None-----0.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

Representing Roanoke City Public Schools: Marvin T. Thompson, Superintendent; Cindy H. Poulton, Clerk to the School Board; Bernard J. Godek, Associate Superintendent for Management; August Bullock, Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Sharon Richardson, Executive Director for Student Services; Dana Thurston, Director for Resource Development and Communication; Toni Elitharp, Associate Director for Professional Development; and Timothy R. Spencer, Assistant City Attorney and Legal Counsel to the School Board.

SCHOOLS-COUNCIL: Mayor Harris welcomed School Board Members, the Superintendent of Schools and members of the School administration. He advised that this would be the last meeting with the current City Council and the current School Board and expressed appreciation to Ms. Stockburger and to Dr. Trinkle for their service on the School Board. He stated that as the new Superintendent of Schools completes his first year, it has been an important year of transition for the Superintendent and for the school system in general. He commended the support of the School Board to the Superintendent of Schools and to other administrators and their initiatives.

Chair Stockburger expressed appreciation for the positive working relationship that has existed with the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager during her tenure on the School Board and extended best wishes to her School Board colleagues. She also expressed appreciation to the staff of the Roanoke City School system for their assistance.

Superintendent Thompson advised that the Schools' 2006-2007 fiscal year budget presentation is designed to provide an overview of certain budget management strategies that will be implemented during the upcoming fiscal year in an effort to move the school system forward; and the presentation will consist of two components, the budget process including identification of certain challenges and actions that were taken to overcome those challenges, and the method used to adjust strategic planning process when unfunded priorities were identified.

Mr. Godek expressed appreciation to the School Board and to the executive staff of the school system for their assistance and guidance in preparing the school system's 2006-2007 fiscal year budget. He stated that for perhaps the first time, the executive staff and the School Board have a true appreciation of what it takes to work as a team to prepare a budget, how to identify needs of the school division, and how to list priorities realizing that all things cannot be achieved. He also expressed appreciation to the City Manager and to City staff for their assistance in the budget process.

Mr. Godek reviewed the following information:

RCPS Division Goals

- Improve academic achievement for all students while closing achievement gaps.
- Provide safe and effective learning environments.
- Ensure Roanoke City Public Schools' management and efficiency through division-wide systems of accountability.
- Implement programs and procedures to train, promote, and retain a highly qualified and diverse staff.
- Establish strong home, school, business, and community relationships that support achievement.

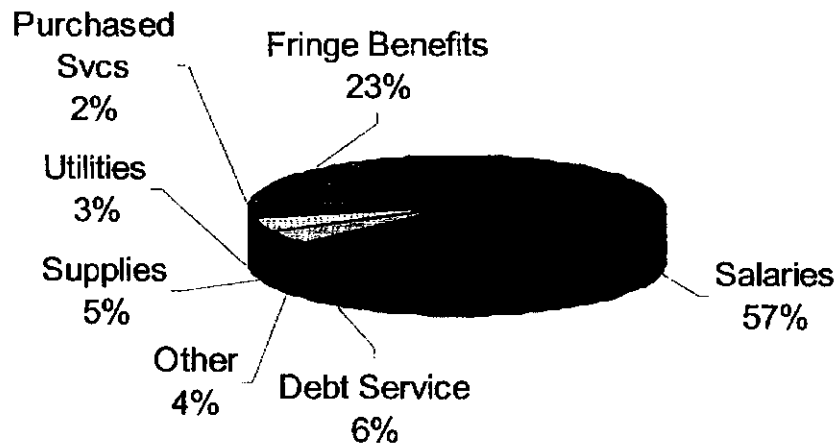
SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS – REVENUES FY 2003-2007 Revenue History and Estimates

	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ADOPTED	PROPOSED	DOLLAR	
	FY 2002-03	FY 2003-04	FY 2004-05	BUDGET	BUDGET	INCREASE	PERCENT
				FY 2005-06	FY 2006-07	(DECREASE)	CHANGE
STATE	\$ 43,336,782	\$ 43,613,971	\$ 50,933,220	\$ 53,072,458	\$ 58,229,837	\$ 5,157,379	9.72%
STATE SALES TAX	8,739,719	9,516,793	11,191,232	12,050,078	13,447,973	1,397,895	11.60%
FEDERAL REVENUE	117,949	135,834	132,359	125,000	142,500	17,500	14.00%
OTHER REVENUE	2,466,261	2,992,875	2,453,408	2,720,100	2,643,000	(77,100)	-2.83%
TOTAL NON-CITY	\$ 54,660,711	\$ 56,259,473	\$ 64,710,219	\$ 67,967,636	\$ 74,463,310	\$ 6,495,674	9.56%
CITY FUNDS	47,478,060	49,547,632	51,889,926	54,352,299	57,800,025	3,447,726	6.34%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 102,138,771	\$ 105,807,105	\$ 116,600,145	\$ 122,319,935	\$ 132,263,335	\$ 9,943,400	8.13%
CAPITAL MAINTENANCE FUNDS	2,341,718	4,033,630	1,606,326	-	-	N/A	NA
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ 104,480,489	\$ 109,840,735	\$ 118,206,471	\$ 122,319,935	\$ 132,263,335	\$ 9,943,400	NA
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE REVENUE	4,579,841	4,737,624	5,146,712	4,996,940	5,354,948	358,008	7.16%
TOTAL OPERATING/FOOD SVC.	\$ 109,060,330	\$ 114,578,359	\$ 123,355,183	\$ 127,316,875	\$ 137,618,283	\$ 10,301,408	8.09%

**SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS – EXPENDITURES
FY 2003-2007 Expenditure History and Estimates
By State Reporting Category**

				FY2006		FY2007			
	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	APPROVED		PROPOSED		Increase/(Decrease)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	FTE	BUDGET	FTE	BUDGET	FTE
Instruction	\$ 75,988,520	\$ 78,887,410	\$ 88,259,813	\$ 90,958,935	1,503.16	\$ 97,286,711	1,508.16	6,327,776	5.00
Support Services	4,044,229	4,307,726	5,397,807	5,335,547	70.58	6,353,002	77.24	1,017,455	6.65
Transportation	4,024,033	4,499,365	5,445,412	5,119,916	177.00	6,359,616	180.00	1,239,700	3.00
Operation & Maintenance	10,417,202	10,796,601	11,971,000	12,577,074	197.40	13,722,723	204.40	1,145,649	7.00
Facilities	1,981,564	3,632,684	2,115,286	1,083,215	-	538,805	-	(544,410)	-
Debt Service	4,515,312	5,384,670	4,559,474	7,245,248	-	8,002,478	-	757,230	-
Total General Fund	\$ 100,970,859	\$ 107,508,476	\$ 117,748,792	\$ 122,319,935	1,948.14	\$ 132,263,335	1,969.80	\$ 9,943,400	21.65
Food Services	4,414,112	4,837,084	5,128,599	4,996,940	98.60	5,354,948	94.60	358,008	(4.00)
Total Operating Funds	\$ 105,384,972	\$ 112,395,560	\$ 122,877,391	\$ 127,316,875	2,046.74	\$ 137,618,283	2,064.40	\$ 10,301,408	17.65

**Chart G
Expenditures by Object
FY 2006-07**



Superintendent Thompson advised that when reviewing alternative methods of providing career and technical services at Blue Ridge Technical Academy, the program was expanded in conjunction with Virginia Western Community College to design programs and goals that will enable all students to earn a certificate, whether it be at the 12th grade level, or a program at Virginia Western Community College.

Mr. Godek advised that certain organizational changes were made since July 1, 2005, and carried over into the 2006-2007 budget; in order to fund the number one priority of the schools which is a salary increase for employees, reductions were made in the General Operating Fund of \$2.35 million; increases are considered to be average; increases for classified employees are somewhat higher as a result of a pay study that was conducted by the City of Roanoke and based on a recommendation contained in the study; and it is hoped to continue the five per cent increase for classified employees over the next three years in order to bring those employees in line with their counterparts in similar positions in other parts of the state.

Council Member Cutler inquired if there is consistency between the pay scale of the School system and the City; whereupon, Mr. Godek advised that it is hoped to bring salary parity between employees in the City and in the School system based on comparable jobs; and the study revealed that many classified employees are underpaid.

He reviewed the following items that could not be funded in the fiscal year 2006-2007 budget, i.e.: new textbook adoptions division wide, alternative funding for the eight-step instructional model, which is the instructional model that has been implemented throughout the entire school division starting first in Title I schools and expanding to all schools, and commencement of a division-wide major maintenance plan for all school facilities based on a six, 12 and 18 year maintenance cycle:

FY 2006-07 Budget Highlights

Budget Does Not Include:

- Funding for Division-Wide New Textbook Adoptions.
- Funding for the 8-Step Instructional Model Training.
- Funding for the Division-Wide Major Maintenance Plan.
- Funding for the Replacement of Over Age School Buses/Vehicles.
- Funding for Expanded Summer School.
- Funding for the Leadership Academy and Forum.
- Funding for Necessary Reading Initiatives.
- Additional Funding for In-Service Materials, Instructional Supplies, Staff Training and Travel, Equipment Replacement, Furniture Replacement, and Office Supplies.

Mr. Godek reviewed the top five unfunded priorities, and advised that should funds become available, those priorities will be addressed:

UNFUNDED PRIORITIES

1. Program:	Summer School 2006
Objective: To increase RCPS graduation rate and increase student achievement.	
2. Program:	Outdated Textbooks
Objective: To provide students with updated textbooks in subject areas.	
3. Program:	Professional Development
Objective: To keep RCPS staff trained with effective instructional strategies and approaches for increasing student achievement.	
4. Program:	Preventive/Major Maintenance Plan
Objective: To conduct preventive and major maintenance on RCPS facilities on a scheduled/planned basis to reduce the need for extensive renovations at shorter periods of time and provide for a conducive learning environment.	
5. Program:	Replacement of Over-Age School Buses/Vehicles
Objective: To replace school buses and other commercial RCPS vehicles on a 15-year replacement cycle which reduces increased maintenance costs over time and provide for safe student transportation.	

1. Program:	Summer School 2006
Objective: To increase RCPS graduation rate and increase student achievement.	
Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ESOL – secondary 120; elementary 260 •Bridges – 180 students •Off Schedule – 1,573 student (High School) •Total: \$1, 240, 411 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (\$219,180 Unfunded) 	

2. Program: Outdated Textbooks
Objective: To provide students with updated textbooks in subject areas.
Highlights Subject Area: Science Current Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Academic Biology – 1996 •Advanced Biology- 1995 •Earth Science – 1997 •Chemistry – 1996 Subject Area: Mathematics Current Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Textbooks have a 1999 copyright but are prior to SOL testing •SOL revisions are aligned in 2003 mathematics textbook •New mathematics textbooks have more resource materials •Teachers prefer to use new mathematics textbooks Subject Area: English Current Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •9-12 grammar books have 1990 copyright date •9-12 literature books have a 1993 copyright date •Some SOL objectives not covered in current textbooks Subject Area: Social Studies Current Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •K-3 textbooks have 1991 copyright date •Grades K-3 have no aligned social studies textbooks or materials •Maps and globes are older products with some errors Teachers create materials to teach social studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (\$1,000,000 Unfunded)

3. Program: Professional Development
Objective: To keep RCPS staff trained with effective instructional strategies and approaches for increasing student achievement.
Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •8 Step Instructional Process •Benchmarking System (Testing, grades 2-12) •ROS Scanning System (Test scoring scanners) •Copying and Materials cost (Tests and answers sheets) \$500,000 •Leadership Academy/Forum (leadership training for RCPS employees wanting to become principals) \$75,000 •Reading Initiative (Improve reading achievement in primary grades) \$250,000 • (\$825,000 Unfunded)

<p>4. Program: Preventive/Major Maintenance Plan</p> <p>Objective: To conduct preventive and major maintenance on RCPs facilities on a scheduled/planned basis to reduce the need for extensive renovations at shorter periods of time and provide for a conducive learning environment.</p> <p>Highlights: 2006-07 Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden City – 6 year - \$111,262.00 • Grandin Court – 6 year - \$36,940.00 • Preston Park – 6 year - \$51,590.00 • Crystal Spring – 12 year - \$54,868.00 • Forest Park – 12 year - \$69,673.00 • Oakland – 12 year - \$106,636.00 <p>• (\$505,971 Unfunded)</p>	
<p>5. Program: Replacement of Over-Age School Buses/Vehicles</p> <p>Objective: To replace school buses and other commercial RCPs vehicles on a 15-year replacement cycle which reduces increased maintenance costs over time and provide for safe student transportation.</p> <p>Highlights: 2006-07 Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 - buses – >14 years old - \$520,000.00 • 8 - commercial vehicles - >14 years old - \$150,000.00 <p>• (\$670,000 Unfunded)</p>	

Council Member Dowe made the observation that in some instances the college community is moving toward on-line textbooks, and inquired if there are local communities that are entertaining this concept; whereupon, Mr. Godek advised that as the cost for textbooks and education in general rises, everyone is looking at the various alternatives; Henrico County has initiated full technological textbooks, but issues have been encountered with regard to infrastructure and startup costs are expensive. He stated that not enough research has been done to prove the validity of on-line textbooks and although textbooks are important, they represent about forty per cent of the Standards of Learning.

Council Member Dowe inquired if consideration has been given to replacing textbooks every four to five years.

Mr. Godek responded that Roanoke City has done a good job in identifying and adopting textbooks and textbooks have been reviewed consistently on a five - six year cycle; one of the reasons for the present dilemma is that funds were not always available because the school system waited for end of year funds or CMERP funds to purchase textbooks, however, other issues came up that took priority and caused the funds to be used elsewhere.

Council Member Dowe inquired as to what comprises the \$2.3 million reduction in operational costs.

Mr. Godek responded that \$1.2 million was identified from personal services, \$100,000.00 from contractual services, \$456,000.00 from materials and supplies throughout the division, \$230,000.00 from capital outlay, \$300,000.00 from the magnet program, and \$25,000.00 from utilities, insurance and other costs. In those areas where increases were programmed due to inflation, he stated that inflationary factors were removed, several programs were deleted and more funds were removed from the operational side than the instructional side of the budget.

Council Member Dowe inquired as to lessons, if any, that were learned from construction at Patrick Henry High School that could be applied to constructing the new William Fleming High School.

Mr. Godek advised that during the time that Patrick Henry High School was under construction, a large portion of the original school was vacated and relocated to modular units; and modular units will be removed and relocated inasmuch as Phase 1 of construction is now complete. He advised that William Fleming High School will be occupied while the new school is under construction.

Council Member Dowe inquired about the status of middle school athletics; whereupon, Mr. Godek advised that there will be no change in programs in middle school athletics.

The Superintendent stated that the Athletic Committee has examined the issue of athletics as a whole, and although no definitive steps have been taken, the process will take the next two years to compile community input and to reach a decision.

Council Member Dowe inquired if leadership academy training is administered internally; whereupon, Superintendent Thompson advised that most school divisions try to "grow their own," which is the strongest and the best way to strengthen cultures and to entrench practices for continuous improvement. He stated that the program has been well received, there is a great deal of support throughout the State for Roanoke's leadership academy, staff is in the process of reevaluating the program and taking future steps, and members of the community have approached Roanoke City Public Schools with regard to their involvement.

Chair Stockburger advised that the Roanoke City Public Schools Education Foundation has completed its strategic planning process and is currently developing short and long-term goals, one of which is to have a financial impact on the leadership academy.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick inquired as to how much additional money would be required to fund all school programs that are deemed necessary by the Superintendent of Schools; whereupon, Superintendent Thompson advised that his goal is to provide performance standards; the "wish list" concept does not serve the school system and its particular needs; unfunded priorities will most likely be consistent over the next four years; those programs, etc., that are beginning to show progress throughout the school division are not so much new programs, but opportunities to provide training and to strengthen existing programs; and the goal of the school system over the next few years will be to sustain programs and to build a stronger infrastructure.

Mr. Thompson advised that the \$2.3 million in reductions came about as the result of a review of current methods of transacting business and reaching a decision that certain things could be done differently in order to be more efficient and to produce cost savings within the school budget. He stated that the school division will look at attendance zones, how students are bussed to schools, and utilization of facilities, etc., over the next several years in order to achieve greater levels of efficiency.

Council Member Cutler requested a clarification of a previous statement by Superintendent Thompson that textbooks cover only 40 per cent of the Standards of Learning. Mr. Thompson responded that textbook makers sell to regions, and if a textbook company sells to four different states, each state has adopted different standards, therefore, textbooks are developed to align with a region; typically, a good textbook is about 40 per cent, therefore, if a textbook company sells to the Commonwealth of Virginia and four other states, the standards from each state are incorporated into the textbook.

With regard to the other 60 percent, the Superintendent advised that the State supplements the curriculum framework, on line teachers are provided with a framework that sets out certain essential knowledge and skills that students need to learn relative to each SOL, and additional resources are listed to supplement textbooks; therefore, much of what has been gained over the last few years has been through teacher collaboration and available resources through division content specialists. He stated that enhancing and aligning textbooks will help teachers and students to be more accountable to the information they receive, whereas, other resources provided by the state are teacher driven, and the textbook is more of a student resource.

Council Member Cutler inquired about the status of the Roanoke Education Foundation; whereupon, Chair Stockburger advised that the Education Foundation has adopted a vision and mission statement, and is now reviewing goals, with the immediate goal to provide clear communications with regard to the actual state of Roanoke City Public Schools.

Council Member Cutler inquired as to what extent the outside auditor's report was helpful with regard to the budgetary process; whereupon, Superintendent Thompson responded that the audit was more performance and quality driven than budgetary driven; and the primary objective of the audit was to look at the alignment of practices of state and federal standards, performance driven results, and whether or not the City of Roanoke had fully implemented quality management in the school division.

Mr. Godek advised that a primary effect was with regard to personnel, the audit recommended a reduction in guidance counselors, and four guidance counselors will retire next year leading to a savings in attrition, and four clerical positions were recommended for elimination and will not be filled in the upcoming budget.

Council Member Cutler inquired if there are any economies of scale associated with working with other entities such as the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County, with regard to administrative activities such as human resources, fleet management, purchasing, fringe benefits, libraries, etc. Mr. Godek responded that there are certain advantages and called attention to an ongoing joint venture to explore the possibility of combining warehousing operations with the City of Roanoke and the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority. He stated that it is anticipated to expand into other areas such as purchasing, especially with the purchase of the new finance and accounting system for the City and the Schools.

Council Member Cutler expressed concern with regard to air quality and ozone levels as a result of the number of school buses that operate on City streets, and stated that this is another reason to modernize the school bus fleet as soon as possible in order to use fuels that are less polluting.

Mr. Godek advised that a grant was awarded to numerous school divisions throughout the state to add to or to make modifications to bus engines, and modifications were completed in approximately 90 per cent of the City's bus fleet this past year; however, the biggest concern with reference to school bus fleet rotation is the safety issue.

Council Member McDaniel spoke with regard to boundary lines and inquired if the school system has taken steps to encourage students to walk to school; whereupon, Superintendent Thompson advised that no definitive discussion has taken place with regard to changing boundary lines and it would be presumptuous of the school system to engage in open discussion with regard to boundary lines when the system is just beginning the process of evaluating facilities. He stated that the question would be in line with the potential outcome of the facility study.

Chair Stockburger advised that she previously served on a health and wellness committee at the State level, and the committee discussed the concept of a "walking school bus" which is designed to bring children and adults together for safety purposes.

Council Member McDaniel inquired if the Roanoke City Schools Public Education Foundation has established a financial fund raising goal.

Chair Stockburger advised that between \$40,000.00 and \$60,000.00 has been discussed as a frame of reference; currently the Education Foundation is looking at making contacts throughout the community because the purpose of a Foundation is not just to raise enhancement funds, but to provide connection with the community, and by the end of the summer there should be a manifestation of business relationships.

The Mayor requested the Superintendent of Schools to discuss the proposed budget and how it dovetails with his initiatives relative to student performance, student achievement, school accreditation, those issues that the Superintendent has focused attention on during his first year as Superintendent and those things that are either different or new with regard to specific goals.

In response to the Mayor's request, Superintendent Thompson called upon Dr. Toni Elitharp, Associate Director for Professional Development, to present an overview of strategic planning initiatives.

Dr. Elitharp advised that:

- Having been involved in education for the past 27 years, she is amazed at the effort that the Roanoke City Public Schools has put into the strategic planning process.
- A group of 250 people were brought together to work on the process, 150 of whom were selected through a stratified random sampling consisting of persons who are representative of the community.
- The goal of the planning group was to look at the goals established by the Superintendent of Schools, which were refined by the executive team.
- The process included a review of: what are the goals of the school division, how to strategically plan for those goals, alignment of goals with objectives and strategies, followed by action plans at the division level initially, then to the department and to the school level, with the involvement of students at some point.

- The planning group worked with the School Board to develop a mission statement.
- The planning group brainstormed and participated in critical thinking, members were tasked with doing things they had never done before and they were assigned a certain amount of time to reach an end result.
- A concern was with regard to what to do with the strategic plan upon completion; i.e.: how will the plan be monitored to ensure that certain actions occur.
- The Executive Board and the Superintendent has established monitoring systems that will send notices to the schools to provide progress reports and a time line for accomplishing various actions.
- The planning group looked at the span of control and the organizational chart; i.e.: where is the school system redundant in what is being done and how can roles and responsibilities be streamlined to get the maximum results.
- Through an internal analysis, total quality management practices have been implemented.
- A second planning team was established in February consisting of 200 participants who worked strategically and were enthusiastic about the opportunity to make a difference for Roanoke's students.
- A third team of persons came together in March composed of a smaller representative sampling of the community and school personnel; and the team developed detailed descriptions of specific actions, objectives, and strategies that were broken down.
- At the request of the Superintendent, the group changed focus and the next team addressed compliance, refinement and new initiatives to be prioritized within the budget; and the group reached a consensus by looking at every strategy in the strategic plan to determine whether it was a compliance issue, a refinement issue, or a new initiative.
- At this point, new initiatives have been removed from the strategic plan and the team is focusing on those issues that are compliance oriented, or required by the Standards of Quality, the Standards of Accreditation, the Standards of Learning, guidance standards, etc.; and the team then looked at refinement, or those things that were enacted that are making a difference.

- Compliance issues include such things as: ensuring that faculty and staff are appropriately certified and licensed, revising the school guidance curriculum, demonstrating best practices of the American School Counseling Association, and developing an anti-bullying program.
- Refinement examples are: integrating learning strategy and differentiating instruction into the general education curriculum, modifying instruction for students with disabilities and English language learners, while implementing appropriate accommodations, and ensuring that school facilities are clean, safe and secure.
- New initiatives that have been placed on hold are: the division-wide reading program, aligning textbooks with the Standards of Learning, and the skills based program.
- Priorities that are under consideration are: continuing to look at strengthening site based management, implementing professional learning communities for common planning time, encouraging teachers to work together as communities and to address the culture that Roanoke is a school division that is working together for the best interests of students, implementing professional learning communities, strengthening the remediation program, reducing the number of over aged students, increasing graduation rates, and closing the achievement gap.
- It is anticipated that the division level strategic plan will be completed by the end of May, the strategic plan will go to the various departments, departments will review the strategic plan and design and align their individual department plans with plans at the division level; and each individual school will then follow the same procedure.

The Mayor requested that the Superintendent talk about the English Language Learners (ELL) student population in terms of the trend, and the challenge it presents with regard to SOL testing and student achievement.

Superintendent Thompson advised that over the past year, the City has experienced approximately a 40 percent increase in the ELL population throughout the entire division; and the challenges to the school division involve a large number of young people who are not literate in their own language, therefore, the school system must bring them up to date at all levels of education. He stated that the problem does not involve any specific culture or group of population and the school system is working with the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority to monitor and to track the numbers in

order to develop an internal identification system that will identify the location and the date of origination of students. He called attention to an impact on available resources such as personnel through the identification of quality certified ELL teachers. He stated that there is an instructional challenge for teachers because the school system does not have the necessary personnel, therefore, students are placed in classrooms with teachers who are not trained in that specific type of instruction. He explained that the pattern suggests that the trend will increase and the City of Roanoke will continue to attract this population of students, the types of offering in the school division will increase accordingly, and currently this may be one of the biggest challenges facing Roanoke City, aside from having to close the achievement gap. He advised that at the request of the State Director of Limited English Proficient Programs, Roanoke's school division will prepare a three year plan with regard to how the City of Roanoke plans to respond to the ELL population. Based on February 2006 numbers, he stated that it is anticipated that there will be a 35 per cent increase from September to February, and this type of growth can be expected to continue over the next several years.

The Mayor advised that over the past two months, some persons have interpreted, or misinterpreted, the graduation rate as if it were synonymous with the dropout rate. He asked that the Superintendent discuss the graduation rate in comparison to a bona fide dropout rate.

Superintendent Thompson advised that a new formula is being drafted to calculate the graduation rate and this will be the last year for use of the current formula. He called upon Dr. Sharon Richardson, Executive Director for Student Services, to present more specific information.

Dr. Richardson advised that there are approximately 642 students who are over age; normally 58 percent is the figure that is used for the graduation rate; some people may say that Patrick Henry High School graduated 92 per cent of its seniors, or William Fleming High School graduated 91 per cent of its seniors, which is a correct statement, however, the State uses a formula for grades 9 through 12 which provides that GED diplomas may not be counted, and every child under the GED category counts against the graduation rate, although it helps the dropout rate. She explained that only standard diplomas and advanced standard diplomas are counted toward the graduation rate and certificates of completion, some individual education programs (Special Education) and General Education Diplomas do not count toward the graduation rate, even though some of the students may graduate. To compound the matter, she called attention to two formulas that are used for the dropout rate which are calculated by the State for grades 7 - 12 and grades 9- 12, and Roanoke's school system is between four and five per cent on both calculations. She referred to a bill that is currently in the House of Representatives to streamline the formula so that everyone will address the matter.

Following further discussion, the Mayor advised that the formulas are complex, and there is a difference between a graduation rate and a dropout rate; and some persons have publicly stated that because Roanoke has a 58 per cent graduation rate, 42 per cent of Roanoke's students are not graduating, which is not a true statement.

The Mayor called attention to two issues that deserve further discussion: (1) a review of the school funding formula which was established over 20 years ago and has served the City and the School system well, but may need to be revised for future purposes as it relates to debt service for capital projects which was not a part of the funding formula; and (2) the joint use of facilities. He stated that at monthly meetings of the Chair/Mayor and Superintendent/City Manager, discussions have been held with regard to the appointment of work groups composed of City and School representatives to address the issues and to submit recommendations to the Council and the School Board. He added that the School system should be the City of Roanoke's number one priority; the health, future and well being of Roanoke is only as good as the health and well being of its school system; and everything Roanoke does as a City is for naught if its school division is not progressing and moving forward.

Chair Stockburger presented the following draft proposal containing specifics with regard to the purpose of the work groups:

"On behalf of the Roanoke City School Board, I wish to propose that two Council-School Board work groups be formed to study the following:

Funding issues, including the current funding formula

School/City facility-use issues as they relate to capital improvement

Rationale

- Roanoke City Public Schools and the City of Roanoke continually face challenging funding and operational issues. Establishing two work groups, each with a clear focus and timeframe, to look at long-term, sustainable approaches to mitigating costs and maximizing investment for both systems can well result in positive outcomes for both bodies and the community. Carefully reviewing the current costs in shared areas such as facility maintenance, purchasing, transportation, etc., may help us make lasting changes while

developing effective future strategies that truly benefit the schools and the City.

- Both the City and RCPS are engaged in significant capital improvements projects, and will continue to advance capital improvement plans in the future. Jointly exploring facility use, such as schools, recreation facilities, libraries, etc. (acknowledging that school facilities must align with program/instruction functions and standards of accreditation, and any review of school facilities must recognize that this alignment) may have great potential for future capital planning.

Composition:

Each group might consist of one School Board member (not the Chair), one Council Member (not the Mayor) and additional individuals from the administration of each body with the knowledge and responsibility related to the issues at hand. If possible, a convener/facilitator, or part-time paid support person, may assist with the group.

Process:

As the issues to be studied and the people involved in doing so overlap, it may be most effective to roll out the two groups sequentially. Setting a timeframe and specific formative reporting targets will help the groups stay on track. The work groups can then return final recommendations to the Board and Council for further consideration as appropriate.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that the plan of action proposed by Chair Stockburger be approved in concept. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted.

Council Member Cutler advised that this will be his last meeting with the School Board inasmuch as he will retire from City Council on June 30, 2006. He stated that as a Council Member, he is optimistic about the direction of Roanoke's school system, reports are prepared in a professional manner and geared toward the future; therefore, he is optimistic about the future of Roanoke's Public School System as he leaves his Council post on June 30.

Council Member McDaniel requested more information with regard to those schools that are accredited versus those that are not, some of which have high percentages of poverty rates based on free school lunches and a significant minority population.

Superintendent Thompson advised that quality management practices are driven and written by the Standards of Quality enacted by the State and serve as a guide to school divisions in implementing and monitoring student achievement; and the eight step process is designed to facilitate the approach. He stated that monitoring the eight step process is another important component to ensure success and to provide teachers and schools with the necessary feedback as the process moves forward. He called attention to significant gains throughout the year in all populations of students by using current data, and teachers appear to be strongly encouraged by what they have been able to accomplish.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor expressed appreciation to the School Board and staff for meeting with the Council to discuss issues relating to the fiscal year 2006-2007 budget.

There being no further business, at 10:30 a.m., the Chair declared the meeting of the School Board adjourned.

At 10:30 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess.

The meeting of Roanoke City Council reconvened at 10:40 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, with Mayor Harris presiding and all Members of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Council Members Lea and Wishneff.

BUDGET: The City Manager inquired if the Members of Council had items that they would like to discuss during fiscal year 2006-2007 budget study on Thursday, May 4, 2006, at 8:30 a.m., whereupon, the Mayor suggested that Council engage in discussions regarding funding of the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau and funding for an additional position for the Clerk of Circuit Court.

COMMITTEES-CITY COUNCIL: A communication from Mayor C. Nelson Harris requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, pursuant to §2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

Council Member Cutler moved that Council concur in the request of the

Mayor to convene in Closed Meeting as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Cutler and Mayor Harris -----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Member Dowe was not present when the vote was recorded.) (Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

COMMITTEES-COUNCIL-SCHOOLS: A communication from Mayor C. Nelson Harris requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to interview four applicants for vacancies on the Roanoke City School Board, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor to convene in Closed Meeting as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Cutler and Mayor Harris -----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Member Dowe was not present when the vote was recorded.) (Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

CITY COUNCIL: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss disposition of publicly-owned property, where discussion in open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

Council Member McDaniel moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager to convene in Closed Meeting as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Cutler and Mayor Harris -----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Member Dowe was not present when the vote was recorded.) (Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 P. M. COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION, AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 P. M., DOCKET: NONE.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: NONE.

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

At 10:45 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess for three Closed Sessions, as previously approved by the Council, to be held in the Council's Conference Room, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building.

At 11:27 a.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, Virginia, with Mayor Harris presiding and all Members of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Council Members Dowe, Lea and Wishneff.

COUNCIL: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Cutler and Mayor Harris -----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Members Dowe, Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-WATER RESOURCES: The Mayor advised that the term of office of M. Rupert Cutler as a Director of the Western Virginia Water Authority will expire on June 30, 2006; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick placed in nomination the name of M. Rupert Cutler.

There being no further nominations, Dr. Cutler was reappointed as a Director of the Western Virginia Water Authority for a term commencing July 1, 2006, ending June 30, 2010, by the following vote:

FOR DR CUTLER: Council Members Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Cutler and Mayor Harris -----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Members Dowe , Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

At 11:30 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess until 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, and the Council reconvened in Closed Session in the Council's Conference Room to interview two applicants for appointment to the Roanoke City School Board.

At 2:00 p.m., on Monday, May 1, 2006, the Council meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, Virginia, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff, M. Rupert Cutler and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----6.

ABSENT: Council Member Sherman P. Lea-----1.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

The invocation was delivered by Council Member Alfred T. Dowe, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Harris.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

ACTS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-EROSION/SEDIMENT CONTROL: R. Brian Townsend, Director, Planning, Building & Economic Development, advised that the City of Roanoke is presently developing a storm water management program which is consistent with the Commonwealth of Virginia's Pollution Discharge and Illumination System; the City is currently pursuing an update to City stormwater management regulations in concert with Roanoke County, development of an annual inspection program for existing stormwater management facilities, and a recognition program directed at highlighting exemplary efforts in stormwater management during project construction.

Mr. Townsend stated that an important element of construction development is to minimize the amount of sediment transported into creeks and rivers by stormwater runoff, which is a difficult task that is made even more challenging when the construction site is the Roanoke River; Phase I of the Roanoke River Flood Reduction Program presented a difficult challenge to the contractor, Branch Highways, for erosion and sediment control, however, challenges were overcome by exemplary efforts in connection with installation, monitoring and maintenance of required erosion and sediment control measures.

Mr. Townsend emphasized that the management of various controls by Branch Highways resulted in providing the necessary protection of the Roanoke River during construction of Phase I; whereupon, he recognized the outstanding accomplishments of Mike Higgins, Greg Montgomery, Will Karbach and Bill Bailey, Project Forman, Branch Highways, for protecting the environment during Phase I of the Roanoke River Flood Reduction Project. In appreciation of their efforts, he presented Branch Highways with a plaque of appreciation containing the following inscription:

Certificate of Recognition

presented to

Branch Highways, Inc.



For an outstanding job of environmental
protection through the effective use of
erosion and sediment control measures
on a project with difficult challenges

**The Roanoke River
Flood Reduction Program Phase I**




C. Nelson Harris, Mayor - May 1, 2006

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine by the Members of Council and would be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion was desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

BUSES-AUDIT COMMITTEE: Minutes of a meeting of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company Audit Committee held on Monday, December 19, 2005, were before Council.

The following items were considered by the Greater Roanoke Transit Company Audit Committee:

External Audit Reports-KPMG Reports:

- GRTC - Transit Operations Financial Statements - June 30, 2005 - 2004
- GRTC - Report to the Board of Directors - Year Ended June 30, 2005
- Southwestern Virginia Transit Management Company, Inc. Retirement Plan and Trust Financial Statements - December 31, 2004 and 2003

- Southwestern Virginia Transit Management Company, Inc. Retirement Plan and Trust Report to the Board of Trustees – Year ended December 31, 2004

Council Member Dowe moved that the Minutes be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

TAXES: A communication from the City Manager recommending that Council schedule a public hearing for Monday, May 15, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a request of Commonwealth Coach and Trolley Museum, Inc., a non-profit organization, for exemption from taxation of certain personal property in the City of Roanoke, was before the body.

Council Member Dowe moved that Council concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

TAXES: A communication from the City Manager recommending that Council schedule a public hearing for Monday, May 15, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a request of Norfolk and Western Historical Society, Inc., for tax exempt status of certain real property located at 2101 Salem Avenue, S. W., was before the body.

Council Member Dowe moved that Council concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

PURCHASE/SALE OF PROPERTY-CITY PROPERTY: A communication from the City Manager recommending that Council schedule a public hearing for Monday, May 15, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, with regard to the purchase of three City-owned parcels of land located adjacent to 119 Wells Avenue, N. W., described as Official Tax Nos. 2012715, 2012716 and 2012717 at the assessed value, by the Jacquot Corporation, was before the body.

Council Member Dowe moved that Council concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

ART MUSEUM OF WESTERN VIRGINIA: A communication from the City Manager recommending that Council schedule a public hearing for Monday, June 19, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, with regard to the leasing of air rights located above the rights-of-way of Norfolk Avenue, Williamson Road, and Salem Avenue, S. E., identified as Official Tax Nos. 4010205 and 4010210, to The Art Museum of Western Virginia for a 60 year period, was before the body.

Council Member Dowe moved that Council concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-PARKS AND RECREATION-COMMITTEES: A report of qualification of James Settle as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, for a term ending March 31, 2009, was before Council.

Council Member Dowe moved that the report of qualification be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

COMMITTEES-SCHOOLS: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 1, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, with regard to appointment of three Trustees to the Roanoke City School Board for three-year terms of office, commencing July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2009, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Friday, April 14, 2006.

Applications were submitted by James P. Beatty, Jason E. Bingham, Caren D. Boisseau, Jay Foster, Mae G. Huff, Randy L. Leftwich, Mark S. Lucas and Todd A. Putney.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who would like to speak in connection with the matter; whereupon, the following persons addressed the Council:

Mr. Al Comer, 234 Parkcrest Road, S. W., spoke in support of the application of Todd A. Putney. He stated that he is impressed by Mr. Putney's involvement in the community, his volunteer service, and his vision to not only move Roanoke's school system forward, but his ability to articulate his vision in a professional manner, both socially and in volunteer organizations. He stated that Mr. Putney is also open minded, he has a positive approach in carrying out his responsibilities, he does not dwell on the negative, but takes what is given to him and makes the most of the situation. He advised that the Roanoke City School Board has identified certain problems that need to be addressed, however, the right people must be appointed to the School Board to empower the Board to move the City forward and to make Roanoke's school system the best it can be. He stated that Mr. Putney will provide the level of leadership that is needed to guide Roanoke's school system into the future.

Mr. Abney S. Boxley, 301 Willow Oak Drive, S. W., spoke on behalf of the application of Todd A. Putney for appointment to the School Board. He stated that Mr. Putney is qualified for the position, he is a person who has a vested interest in the outcome of Roanoke's schools, and he has a passion for the position of School Trustee. He added that Mr. Putney is Vice-President of Human Resources at Shenandoah Life Insurance Company where he is in the business of educating and developing people; his work on diversity issues at Shenandoah Life is unique, broad and particularly relevant to Roanoke City today; he served on the Board of Directors of Valley Character which is an important facet of Roanoke's school system and his support of the Governor's School Foundation is current and on-going. He stated that Mr. Putney has a vested interest and a commitment to Roanoke's school system because he has two children presently enrolled in the system; he has done his homework in preparation for an appointment to the School Board by meeting with several School Board members, the President of the Addison PTA, the Principal of William Fleming High School and he has the support of numerous educators and other professionals who understand the depth of his desire to be appointed to the School Board. He advised that if Mr. Putney is appointed to the School Board, he will bring the attributes of an open mind, a willing heart and an experienced team builder to the position.

Mr. Chris Craft, 1501 East Gate Avenue, N. E., advised that he did not speak on behalf of any School Board applicant; however, he stated that he applied for appointment to the School Board because the School Board needs a change for the better. He stated that he has not been successful in past attempts to be appointed to the School Board because he does not live in the right neighborhood, he does not have a lot of money, and he does not know the right people. He pointed out that three School Board members live within a mile of each other and the City of Roanoke needs a School Board that is representative of all sections of the City. He spoke in support of an elected, rather than an appointed School Board, that will represent all citizens of Roanoke and not just the wealthy and affluent.

Ms. Rita Leftwich, 110 Brookshire Drive, Rocky Mount, Virginia, spoke in support of the appointment of Mark S. Lucas to the School Board. She called attention to his integrity, his love of children, and his involvement as an outgoing, vivacious and energetic parent. She asked that Council give favorable consideration to his application for appointment to the School Board.

Mr. Russ Ellis, 2731 Jefferson Street, S. W., spoke on behalf of the application of Todd A. Putney for appointment to the Roanoke City School Board because he can make a positive impact on Roanoke's School system. He stated that as he has observed Mr. Putney as a parent, as a coach, and in a leadership role as a member of the Roanoke Education Foundation, and he has been impressed by his passion for the community by giving his time and energy to matters that will make a difference for Roanoke's children and for the future of the City of Roanoke. He advised that Mr. Putney's qualifications include coaching recreation league basketball and softball teams, he serves on the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Foundation Board and will serve as incoming President, he is a past board member of Valley Character and continues to serve as a regular table member of Ethics in the Workplace, he serves as Chair of the Diversity for Life Office Management Association (LOMA) which is a great honor in view of the fact that the organization represents the top 350 life insurance companies internationally, and he will bring a vast amount of practical experience from business as well as personal activities. He stated that Council has a large group of qualified applicants from which to select School Trustees, but when making a final decision, he asked that Council take into consideration the depth, practical experience and passion for the City's success that Mr. Putney will bring to the position and appoint a leader and a worker to the City's School Board.

There being no further speakers, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

BUDGET-EMERGENCY SERVICES-GRANTS: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the Virginia Department of Emergency Management has announced an additional allocation for the 2005 U. S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), State Homeland Security Program Grant; and the grant is designed to provide equipment, training, planning and exercises for first responders to develop better preparedness to prevent, respond and recover from potential acts of terrorism.

It was further advised that the City of Roanoke has been allocated a total of \$53,054.00 in additional funding under the grant, which will be placed in the City's fiscal year 2006 accounts; funding was based on a regional allocation of \$402,762.00 divided into jurisdictions on a per capita basis; and funding will be made available upon review of the budget detail listing and approval by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the DHS.

It was stated that the funds, which require no local match, must be used according to requirements specified by the Department of Homeland Security; and the 2005 grant allows the expenditure of grant funds in four areas of need in First Responder Preparedness to include equipment acquisition, training, planning, and exercise.

The City Manager recommended that she be authorized to execute the necessary documents to accept the grant, to furnish such additional information and to take such additional action as may be required to implement and administer the grant funds and agreements, such documents to be subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney; and that Council adopt an ordinance increasing the revenue estimate in Account No. 035-520-3527-3528, FY06 State Homeland Security Grant, in the amount of \$53,054.00 and appropriate funds in the same amount to FY06 State Homeland Security Grant, Account No. 035-520-3527-3030.

Council Member Dowe offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37375-050106) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate additional funding from the Commonwealth for the State Homeland Security Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 272.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37375-050106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following resolution:

(#37376-050106) A RESOLUTION authorizing acceptance of an additional allocation of a 2005 U. S. Department of Homeland Security Grant from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management to obtain federal funds under the State Homeland Security Grant Program administered by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security; and authorizing the execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 273.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37376-050106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

WRABA (WILLIAMSON ROAD AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION)-SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that in May 1993, Council adopted Ordinance No. 31472-052493, which created the Williamson Road Area Service District, and authorized execution of a service agreement between the City of Roanoke and the Williamson Road Area Business Association, Inc. (WRABA); on May 20, 1996, the initial agreement was renewed authorizing continued administration of the agreement by WRABA for a one year term, with nine one year extensions thereafter, subject to termination, with or without cause, during each period of time; and the current agreement will expire on June 30, 2006.

It was further advised that WRABA has requested that Council authorize renewal of the agreement for continued administration of the Special Service District; WRABA has requested that the renewed agreement be made at the same tax imposed rate (\$0.10 per \$100.00 valuation of real estate) and district boundaries (between Orange Avenue and City limits north on Williamson Road) and for a similar length of time that was agreeable with Council on May 20, 1996; and WRABA is also requesting that the two per cent administrative fee charged annually by the City be removed from the agreement.

It was explained that the projected revenue from Special Service District tax funds is \$82,000.00 for fiscal year 2006-2007; based upon this estimate, the annual administrative fee will be \$1,640.00 for fiscal year 2006-2007; and WRABA continues to pursue endeavors that will improve economic vitality and enhance the quality of life in the Williamson Road corridor.

It was advised that WRABA supports the City's efforts with regard to changes to the Enterprise Zone and has worked collaboratively with the Police Department through business watch groups and seminar attendances; WRABA's achievements over the last ten years illustrate its commitment to the areas of economic development, City beautification, strategic planning, and public safety; and the two per cent administrative fee charged annually by the City was deleted from the contract with Downtown Roanoke, Inc., for the Downtown Service District; therefore, the service fee should be removed from the agreement with WRABA.

The City Manager recommended that she be authorized to execute a renewal agreement between the City of Roanoke and the Williamson Road Area Business Association, Inc., (WRABA) effective July 1, 2006, for an initial term of one year, subject to nine additional one year terms and subject to termination, with or without cause, during each term for continued administration of the Special Service District; and the agreement shall delete the two per cent administrative fee previously imposed, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following resolution:

(#37377-050106) A RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the Williamson Road Area Business Association, Inc. ("WRABA"), for continued administration of the Williamson Road Special Service District, upon certain terms and conditions.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 274.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37377-050106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler and Mayor Harris-----6.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Lea was absent.)

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:

AUDITS/FINANCIAL REPORTS: The Director of Finance submitted the Financial Report for the month of March, 2006.

(For full text, see Financial Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

There being no discussion and without objection by Council, the Mayor advised that the Financial Report for the month of March 2006 would be received and filed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.

MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

ACTS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-CITY COUNCIL: Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that at a picnic recognizing municipal volunteers on Friday, April 28, 2006, a ceremonial check in the amount of \$376,000.00 was presented to the City of Roanoke representing the dollar value of services contributed to the City by persons who participate in the Municipal Volunteer Program. On behalf of the City of Roanoke, he expressed appreciation to those citizens who volunteer their services to make their City a better place to live.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: The Mayor advised that Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard and matters requiring referral to the City Manager will be referred immediately for response, recommendation or report to Council.

ACTS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-BRIDGES: Mr. Chris Craft, 1501 East Gate Avenue, N. E., advised that with the death of A. Victor Thomas, the City lost a great statesman; inasmuch as Mr. Thomas operated a business on Orange Avenue and represented the East Gate community for many years, he requested that the bridge connecting Roanoke over Tinker Creek be renovated and dedicated to the memory of Mr. Thomas.

Council Member Cutler commended the suggestion of Mr. Craft and stated that the Environmental Education Center, which is proposed to be constructed in the former Transportation Museum in Wasena Park, could be named in memory of Mr. Thomas.

COMPLAINTS-POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Howard Cooper, Jr., 3022 Hickory Wood Drive, N. W., Apt. No. 109, spoke as a concerned citizen with regard to drug trafficking, specifically in the areas of 16th Street and Rugby Boulevard, N. W., and 13th Street and Salem Avenue, S. W., where drugs are sold on the streets, both day and night, and such activities prevent citizens from enjoying the peace and quiet of their homes. He also called attention to the need to address toxic fumes from a former City landfill site which is located behind Lucy Addison Middle School.

ARMORY/STADIUM: Mr. John Graybill, 2443 Tillett Road, S. W., advised that many citizens of Roanoke want to save Victory Stadium, not necessarily for nostalgic reasons, but to provide a stadium that Roanoke's students can be proud of. He stated that on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, the citizens of Roanoke will cast their vote in the Councilmanic election and he trusts that they will make the right decisions for the City of Roanoke.

COMPLAINTS-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: Daniel Hale, President, Roanoke Branch, NAACP, called upon Delvis O. (Mac) McCadden, Communications Chair, to read the following communication:

"It is with deep regret that the Roanoke Branch, NAACP is before you today to voice its displeasure at the hiring process adopted by the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) for its position of Executive Director. In short, there is no need to go into background; let's get to the crux of this matter:

- Earl Reynolds was lured to the RRHA from his job as City Manager of Martinsville
- He was lured to Roanoke to be the Deputy Executive Director of RRHA (that position usually means one is being groomed to move into the ED's position)
- By virtue of his working with the RRHA in his stint as Assistant City Manager of Roanoke City, Earl Reynolds already had a working relationship with the RRHA. Why would you bring someone back if the relationship was negative?
- Earl Reynolds spent 2½ years as Deputy Executive Director
- Earl Reynolds is significantly more qualified than anyone to assume the role of Executive Director
- A nation-wide search for an Executive Director was authorized by the RRHA
- Earl Reynolds was interviewed, but he was not a finalist
- RRHA Board of Commissioners voted 4-3 against Earl becoming a finalist (with the vote going down racial lines)
- RRHA Board of Commissioners are appointed by Roanoke City Council
- Roanoke City Council does have a liaison assigned to the RRHA. Sometimes citizens appointed to boards and authorities are good friends, relatives, or present or past work partners of Roanoke City Council members (that's going to happen at some point in government)

With all that, Roanoke City Council has not yet decided to take a look at the hiring process. We are saying that if it looks like a fish, smells like a fish, and swims like a fish, it must be a fish!

Something should have smelled rotten to you prior to our being here today. That you have not looked into the situation tells us that you are not who you claim to be: elected representatives of all citizens of Roanoke and protecting our interests. Citizens receiving the services of the RRHA can say that you allowed the RRHA to use precious public monies to hire an out-of-state consulting firm to launch a nation-wide search for an infinitely impossible task: to find someone more qualified than Earl Reynolds to man the helm of the RRHA.

You, Roanoke City Council, should be ashamed of yourselves for allowing such a waste of taxpayer money and staff time to perpetuate such a farce. Shame on each of you for not protecting our interest. The Roanoke Branch, NAACP demands that you mandate a halt to the hiring process begun by the RRHA. If you do not have the intestinal fortitude to do so (or to accept responsibility for what has occurred), we demand that you call for the resignations of the RRHA Board of Commissioners and slap yours on top of theirs. You know, in Britain, when their leaders shuck their duties, those leaders honorably resign due to a lack of a vote of confidence. Do you have the personal resolve to do the same?"

COMPLAINTS-CITY COUNCIL: Ms. Evelyn D. Bethel, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., invited the Members of Council to read *Sermons We See* by Edgar A. Guest. She presented each Member of Council with copy of a sermon entitled, "Life of the Believer" which states that one's integrity is at the core of who they are, one loses their integrity when they begin to rationalize; people lose their integrity when they are afraid of what other people will think of them, or they want to go along with crowd, or they go along to get along, or through selfishness they want to fulfill a personal desire, or have an unwillingness to trust God. She stated that to maintain integrity, one must decide what one's convictions are and live according to their convictions; and the abuse of power causes a destructive pattern of leadership that diverts organizational power for personal use at the expense of others which leads to a culture of fear and confusion.

ARMORY/STADIUM-CITY COUNCIL: Mr. John E. Kepley, 2909 Morrison Street, S. E., advised that Tuesday, May 2, 2006, Election Day, will be judgment day for the decisions and actions of the present City Council and the jury will be the citizens of the City of Roanoke. He stated that the City's debt now stands at \$270 million; and in order to meet the reduction in debt, the City's real estate taxes have increased over 85 per cent in four years and are projected to reach nine per cent this year. In the interest of time, he stated that he would conclude his remarks by stating that the citizens of Roanoke will wait for the decision of the jury on Tuesday, May 2 when citizens cast their vote in the Councilmanic election.

COMPLAINTS-STADIUM: Mr. Allan Scanlan, 1631 Center Hill Drive, S. W., advised that approximately six months ago, after what appeared to have been a clear, logical and carefully designed plan involving ample citizen input, expert evaluation and at considerable taxpayers' expense, a Council majority abandoned a course of action with regard to Victory Stadium that was for the good of the total community in order to follow a perverted plan with unknown beneficiaries. He stated that the only rationale offered for the change in direction was that it was for the children; however, the interest of a few wealthy persons, some of whom might not live in the City of Roanoke, began to show a probable reason for the change of direction. He added that citizens were not then nor are they now, happy with a local government that takes its cues from behind the scenes financial contributors.

HOUSING/AUTHORITY-COMPLAINTS: Ms. Helen E. Davis, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., concurred in the communication which was read earlier in the meeting by Mr. McCadden on behalf of the Roanoke Chapter of the NAACP with regard to the process for selecting the future Executive Director of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She spoke against the hiring of out of town persons for local positions when there are qualified individuals who currently reside within the Roanoke Valley. She stated that the current Deputy Executive Director of the RRHA, Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., is qualified for the position of Executive Director and the citizens of Roanoke are concerned about the process that was used by the Housing Authority in selecting qualified applicants. She further expressed concern with regard to recent actions by the current City Council, and advised that the citizens of Roanoke deserve better. She stated that Roanoke can be proud of its City Sheriff, Octavia Johnson, who is a member of the minority community and received the highest number of votes in every quadrant of the City of Roanoke in her campaign for City Sheriff. She added that when voting in the Councilmanic election on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, the citizens of Roanoke will vote on the future of the City of Roanoke.

COMPLAINTS-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: Ms. Valerie Garner, 2264 Mattaponi Drive, N. W., Chair, Countryside Neighborhood Alliance and neighbor of the Miller Court area, spoke in support of the position of Daniel E. Hale, President of Miller Court and President, Roanoke Branch, NAACP, as set forth in a communication which was read earlier in the meeting by Delvis O. (Mac) McCadden, with regard to the hiring process for the Executive Director of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She stated that the Countryside Neighborhood Alliance takes pride in its diverse community, which is dedicated to maintaining quality of life and the natural beauty of surroundings, and the pride of the organization does not stop at the boundaries of Countryside, but encompasses all residents who experience injustice on any level. She stated that it would be an injustice if Deputy Director Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., is not considered for the position of Executive Director of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority inasmuch as he has Masters Degrees in Urban Development and Criminal Justice, he grew up in Gainsboro, he was City Manager of Martinsville, Virginia, and through his efforts, the wounds of past injustices in the City of Roanoke are beginning to heal. She further stated that there should be no contest as to Mr. Reynolds' qualifications for the position; bringing in candidates from the States of Missouri and Iowa who know nothing about Roanoke would be a set back to the trust that Mr. Reynolds has built within the black community; and Mr. Reynolds' level of experience with regard to the Roanoke Valley cannot be found in any out of state candidate for the position. She stated that it is hoped that those persons who voted to remove Mr. Reynolds from consideration for the position will see the error of their ways, and agree that he should be promoted to the position of Executive Director before further damage is done to relations within the community. Therefore, she asked that Council bring pressure to bear on the hiring process that was implemented by the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

COMPLAINTS-STADIUM: Mr. Jim Fields, 17 Ridgecrest Road, Hardy, Virginia, spoke with regard to the renovation of Victory Stadium and the meaning of the structure to citizens of the Roanoke Valley. He stated that Victory Stadium is in good condition, the facility was constructed in 1942 at a net cost of \$350,000.00, and using 2006 dollars, Victory Stadium could not be constructed for less than \$75 million in today's economy. He questioned the wisdom of constructing two high school stadiums when the City currently has a stadium that will seat 25,000 people, and it would be a waste of taxpayers' money to construct a new stadium when Victory Stadium could be renovated for \$5 - 7 million.

COMPLAINTS-CITY EMPLOYEES: Mr. Robert E. Gravely, 727 29th Street, N. W., expressed concerns with regard to insufficient wages that are paid to City employees. He stated that the composition of Council could change in the near future as a result of the Councilmanic election on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, and Council Members should be elected who are interested in education, the financial condition of the City, and affordable housing.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: NONE.

At 3:20 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess for continuation of previously approved Closed Sessions.

At 4:08 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, with Mayor Harris presiding, and all Members of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Council Member Lea.

COUNCIL: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel, Wishneff, and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Member Cutler was not present when the vote was recorded.) (Council Member Lea was absent.)

There being no further business, at 4:10 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess until Thursday, May 4, 2006, at 8:30 a.m., at which time the Council will convene in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, for fiscal year 2006-2007 Budget Study.

The regular meeting of Roanoke City Council, which was called to order on Monday, May 1, 2006 at 2:00 p.m., reconvened on Thursday, May 4, 2006, at 8:30 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members M. Rupert Cutler, Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Brenda L. McDaniel and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----5.

ABSENT: Council Members Sherman P. Lea and Brian J. Wishneff-----2.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Council Members-Elect Gwendolyn W. Mason and David B. Trinkle; and Sherman A. Stovall, Director of Management and Budget.

BUDGET: The Mayor advised that the purpose of the meeting was to engage in fiscal year 2006-2007 budget study deliberations. He congratulated Council Member Dowe and Council Members-Elect Mason and Trinkle on their reelection/election to City Council, effective July 1, 2006.

The City Manager reviewed the following items that were referred to fiscal year 2006 budget study:

Referred to Budget Study

- **Real Estate Tax Rate Reduction**
- **Eligibility Requirements – Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled**
- **Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment and Retiree Supplement for Health Insurance**
- **Funding for Refugee and Immigrant Student Education**

Mr. Stovall advised that since the time that Council Members were briefed on the proposed budget, ongoing discussions have taken place with regard to additional funding for Explore Park, a Walkway Ambassador Program for the Market Square Walkway – Pedestrian Bridge, the level of funding recommended for the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the level of funding recommended for Total Action Against Poverty.

With regard to the Walkway Ambassador Program for the Market Square Walkway – Pedestrian Bridge, the City Manager advised that a part-time staff person is needed to control the area, to serve as a greeter, and to report any problems with operation of the escalator. She proposed that \$17,000.00 of the City Manager's Contingency account be used to fund a 20 hour per week part-time position.

Council Member Cutler called attention to the door on the Shenandoah Avenue side of the Market Square Walkway that is in need of continuing repair.

Mr. Stovall advised that other items include an additional position which has been requested by the Clerk of Circuit Court, the cleanliness and beautification of the City for the 125th anniversary celebration, and the level of funding for Roanoke Valley Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Mr. Stovall stated that Council was previously briefed on the recommended \$.02 reduction in the real estate tax rate, and the revenue impact associated with the reduction in the amount of \$1,134,000.00. He further stated that in an effort to offset the revenue reduction, there has been ongoing discussion with regard to increasing the cigarette tax by \$.27 and using the additional revenue, totaling \$1,520,000.00, to fund a real estate tax decrease and to hold the school division harmless, with the balance of \$386,000.00 to fund a \$5 million bond issue for curb, gutter, sidewalk and bridge renovation. He explained that the proposed cigarette tax rate increase will put the City of Roanoke at average with other Virginia First Cities jurisdictions.

Council Member Cutler advised that he would be willing to submit a letter to *The Roanoke Times* describing the difference between services that City residents receive as a result of their real estate taxes compared to Roanoke County residents, and to explain service reductions if the City of Roanoke were to impose the same real estate tax as Roanoke County.

The Mayor advised that \$386,000.00 of the \$1,520,000.00 in revenue generated from an increase in the cigarette tax will be used to provide debt service for the bond issuance of \$5 million for curb, gutter, sidewalks and bridge renovation; however, in view of statements made by the school administration with regard to the William Fleming High School project, he inquired if the matter should be temporarily held in abeyance. The City Manager stated that the \$386,000.00 will fund \$5 million of debt and that specific use was suggested because when the cigarette tax was increased several years ago, the increase was directed toward curb, gutter and sidewalk. She inquired if the Mayor was suggesting that the \$386,000.00 should not stay strictly on the City side of the budget; whereupon, the Mayor advised that as

City and School work groups go forward, this should be kept in mind. Mr. Stovall advised part of the updated \$5 million CIP is allocated to the abovereferenced project, it is not anticipated that the bonds will be issued until fiscal year 2008, so there is some flexibility to working with the School Board on the matter.

Mr. Stovall advised that Council was previously briefed on recommended revisions to the income and net worth caps for real estate tax relief for elderly and disabled homeowners. He stated that it is recommended that the household income cap be increased from \$30,000.00 to \$34,000.00, based on the change in the Consumer Price Index since the last revision, and that the net worth cap be increased from \$100,000.00 to \$125,000.00.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation.

The Director of Finance advised that when a potential increase is considered in pension benefits to retirees, various factors are considered such as changes in the Consumer Price Index, the level of raises provided by similar plans within the State, and affordability of the retirement plan; and a cost of living increase has been provided for the City's retirees since 1986, except for the year 1991.

The Director of Finance advised that the following chart references proposed increases by other pension systems within the State; the range is from 1.7 per cent to 3.2 percent; some localities have cost-of-living adjustments built into their pension plan; and not all of the localities that do not have built in cost-of-living adjustments provide a raise each year. He advised that teachers and administrators in the School system participate in VRS, and new employees hired by the Western Virginia Water Authority participate in VRS which has a built in COLA; and building a prefunded cost-of-living adjustment in a pension plan is quite expensive.

Retiree Benefits – Cost of Living Adjustment	
Association of Municipal Retirement Systems of Virginia Cost of Living Adjustments	
Locality	Proposed FY 07
Arlington County	3.2%
Charlottesville	2.0%
Fairfax County –Education	3.0%
Falls Church	1.7%
Newport News	2.2%
Danville	3.0%
VRS	3.2%

The City Manager pointed out the City's retirement calculation is more generous than VRS; the multiplier to calculate final compensation and benefits under VRS is about 1.75 or 1.8, compared to the City's 2.1; the City of Roanoke has been generous by offering employees a match to the ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan, and when taking into consideration Social Security, the City's retirement system, and the ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan, the combination affords the opportunity for income to City employees that is close to their pre-retirement job income.

The Director of Finance advised that a three per cent increase is recommended to eligible members of the City's Pension Plan, effective July 1, 2006; eligible members are those employees who have been retired for at least one year, or approximately 95 percent of retirees; the average proposed pension increase is \$382.00 per year, which will cost the City \$594,643.00 in additional benefits annually, or \$378,000.00 in annual contributions to the Pension Plan.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation.

The Director of Finance advised that for the past several years, retirees have requested an additional health insurance supplement for retirees age 65 or older; and the current pension plan provides a supplement of 75 percent of the amount of health insurance supplement provided to active employees, or \$258.75 to retirees with at least 20 years of service until age 65 when they reach Medicare eligibility, and the Roanoke City Retirees Association has requested that the City continue with the supplement after age 65 in some form. As a point of reference on the cost of granting a lifetime supplement, he advised that the City's Pension Actuary reports that if the current full supplement is continued for a lifetime, the annual cost in contributions would be approximately \$2.4 million and would add over three percent to the contribution rate. Therefore, he stated that due to the cost of maintaining the current level of benefits and providing a cost-of-living adjustment to retirees, it is not financially prudent to provide this enhanced benefit.

The Director of Finance advised that Council was previously briefed on the issue of Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) in connection with participation by retirees in the City's health insurance program. He stated that continuation of the current program will involve an annual cost of approximately \$4 million, which, in general, is unaffordable and a recommendation will be submitted to Council for fiscal year 2008.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Director of Finance with regard to approval of a three per cent increase for eligible members of the City's Pension Plan, effective July 1, 2006.

Mr. Stovall advised that the City received a request from the Refugee and Immigrant Student Education program for funding in the amount of \$75,000.00; the program provides a variety of services such as outreach and education to ethnic communities, intake and needs assessment of students, enrollment and assistance with school testing and placement, completing requested immunizations and health physicals, tracking student progress, and facilitating parent-teacher conferences. He stated that City staff does not recommend funding of the program inasmuch as the program should be funded through the School division, or an application for funding should be submitted to the Human Services Advisory Board.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation that the Refugee and Immigrant Student Education program not be funded.

Mr. Stovall advised that Explore Park submitted an application to the Roanoke Arts Commission for funding in the amount of \$50,000.00, a tentative recommendation for \$36,400.00 will be submitted by the Arts Commission; and a subsequent request was submitted to Council for \$13,600.00 to take Explore Park to the full \$50,000.00. He stated that \$12,565.00 in additional funding was provided to the Roanoke Arts Commission and \$2,500.00 in incremental revenue was designated for outreach activities.

Mr. Stovall advised that City staff does not recommend additional funding for Explore Park because to do so would set a precedent for other agencies that do not receive their request for full funding from the Roanoke Arts Commission or the Human Services Advisory Board.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation of City staff that no additional funding will be approved for Explore Park.

Mr. Stovall advised that the Market Square Walkway requires a significant amount of custodial and building maintenance support; planned custodial and facility maintenance includes a new custodial services contractor, replacement of the escalator steps (completed) and replacement of ceiling tiles and base molding; and an assessment of additional needs includes an enhanced presence of staff at the facility, especially during times when The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center is holding high volume conferences and meetings.

He advised that City staff recommends a part-time hourly employee to greet visitors, provide directions, ensure appropriate use and perform light cleaning, at a cost of \$17,300.00.

By consensus, Council concurred in the above referenced recommendation of staff.

Mr. Stovall referred to a letter dated May 2, 2006, to the Council which provided additional information on funding for the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, Total Action Against Poverty's Community Development Initiative and Fork-lift/Warehouse Operations Training Program, an additional position for the Clerk of the Circuit Court, cleanliness and beautification of the Roanoke Valley for the 125th Anniversary Celebration, and the Roanoke Valley Court Appointed Special Advocates.

With reference to funding of the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, the City Manager called attention to a document indicating current appropriations by other Roanoke Valley jurisdictions to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). She stated that several years ago, the City of Roanoke increased the Transient Lodging Tax in order to provide additional funding to the CVB, but no similar action was taken by any of the other Roanoke Valley participating jurisdictions. She explained that when the CVB presented its Strategic Plan approximately 12-18 months ago, as a member of the CVB Board, she suggested that a funding plan also be created; the CVB came up with numerous ideas, but no additional money to produce the desired results, and she was of the opinion that the City of Roanoke should not be agreeable to continuing, or to increasing its share of contributions, if similar actions were not taken by other Roanoke Valley jurisdictions. She explained that two funding options were created and the Executive Director and the then President were to visit other Roanoke Valley jurisdictions and present the request, however, the two funding options were not adopted or considered by the full CVB Board, although discussions were held with all jurisdictions except Roanoke County, and as a result of the meetings, polite responses were received, but no commitments to increase contributions were made. She stated that the matter is not so much a monetary issue as much as sending a message to the other jurisdictions that something must be done, and if the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau is to be the prime marketer of the region, something different must happen in terms of leadership and funding. She requested input by Council.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick suggested that funding for the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau (RVCVB) be decreased by \$20,000.00 in fiscal year 2006-2007, with the understanding that funding will be decreased another \$20,000.00 in each year for the next two fiscal years if the RVCVB does not produce the appropriate information.

In order to send a stronger message to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Council Member Dowe suggested a \$30,000.00 decrease in funding in fiscal year 2006-2007 and a \$30,000.00 decrease in fiscal year 2007-2008.

Council Member McDaniel stated that if CVB funding is cut, the money should be used for promoting the City of Roanoke, particularly in the year of the City's 125th Anniversary Celebration, and she would not support the reallocation of funds for the City's Annual Report.

Council Member Cutler advised that although he was concerned about decreasing the budget of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, he understood the frustration as it relates to the unwillingness of other Roanoke Valley jurisdictions to make a fair contribution based on either formulas associated with hotel rooms or lodging and food tax, and a message must be sent to CVB staff as it relates to the lack of motivation to address this important issue.

The Mayor suggested consideration of a funding formula that would devote a percentage of the lodging tax to the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau; whereupon, the Vice-Mayor suggested that the matter be discussed at a future meeting of the Mayor, Chair of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, City Manager and County Administrator.

By consensus, Council decreased funding to the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau by \$30,000.00 in fiscal year 2006-2007 and an additional \$30,000.00 in fiscal year 2007-2008.

Council Member Dowe left the meeting.

With reference to Total Action Against Poverty (TAP) Community Development Initiative and Fork-lift Warehouse Operations Training Program, Mr. Stovall advised that the Community Development Initiative is funded as a direct appropriation from the General Fund; TAP requested funding for seven programs, and five programs are recommended for funding in the fiscal year 2006-2007 budget; and the Fork-lift/Warehouse Operations Training program is not recommended for funding.

The City Manager questioned whether the Forklift Warehouse Operations Training program could be classified as a Workforce Development Program, as opposed to a City program.

Following further discussion, it was the consensus of Council to concur in the recommendation that funds not be appropriated for TAP's Forklift Warehouse Operations Training Program.

With reference to additional positions for the Clerk of Circuit Court, Mr. Stovall advised that the Clerk previously requested three additional positions, one to support courtroom operation, one to support probate activity, and one to support the bookkeeping function. He stated that City staff talked with the Clerk of Circuit Court with regard to adding the positions over multiple years, and she, in turn, advised that at least two positions are needed for fiscal year 2007. He added that there was further discussion as to the possibility of reallocating Temporary Wage funding to support the addition of a second position; however, the Clerk expressed her willingness to use Temporary Wages to support a third position.

The Mayor advised that he discussed the matter with the Clerk of Circuit Court and several of the Circuit Court Judges who advised that four judges are currently served by three clerks, and with the additional Commonwealth's Attorney position that is proposed for the purpose of addressing code enforcement issues, more activity will be generated through the court system. Therefore, he stated that at least two of the Circuit Court Judges have stressed the need for an additional Deputy Clerk II position. He advised that he supports the request of the Clerk of Circuit Court for two additional positions because the Clerk has done an outstanding job, she is a team player, she has raised considerable revenue for the City, and he takes seriously the request of the Circuit Court Judges.

By consensus, Council concurred in the request of the Clerk of Circuit Court for two additional employees.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that if the Clerk requests a third position in fiscal year 2007-2008, the Temporary Wages account should be used as the funding source.

With reference to cleanliness and beautification for the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the City of Roanoke, Mr. Stovall advised that the recommended budget includes funds to celebrate the City's anniversary and to begin the Inaugural Arts Festival.

Council Member McDaniel noted that additional funds are included in the City's fiscal year 2006-2007 recommended budget for hanging flower baskets and to address issues with regard to weeds and overgrown grass in the City's rights-of-way.

The City Manager advised that the Department of Streets and Traffic will be responsible for rights-of-way management; maintenance of rights-of-way is key to the appearance of the City and to properties adjacent to the City's rights-of-way; and after July 1, 2006, staff transfers will be implemented to provide that all rights-of-way management will be included in a single area of responsibility.

Council Member McDaniel inquired about the condition of a junkyard behind the School Maintenance facility on Franklin Road; whereupon, the City Manager advised that she would call the matter to the attention of the Superintendent of Schools, and the Mayor stated that the matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the Mayor, Chair of the School Board, City Manager and Superintendent of Schools.

Council Member Cutler stated that Valley Beautiful should be challenged to become more assertive in its efforts with regard to hanging flower baskets throughout the City.

The City Manager referred to a suggestion offered by the Mayor to enlist the assistance of Roanoke Valley garden clubs in certain areas of the City, such as the former Transportation Museum site.

She advised that staff of the Department of Parks and Recreation will contact local garden clubs to determine their level of interest.

The Vice-Mayor called attention to the declining membership of garden clubs and advised that this could be a way to reenergize garden clubs to become more active in public service.

Council Member Cutler also suggested that neighborhood organizations and the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates could become involved in beautification efforts; whereupon, the Mayor stated that it might be best to focus on one area and/or project at a time in order to build momentum.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation of the City Manager with regard to including funds in the City's fiscal year 2006-2007 budget to address cleanliness and beautiful of the City for the 125th Anniversary Celebration.

Mr. Stovall advised that \$38,000.00 in CDBG funds is recommended for the Roanoke Valley Court Appointed Special Advocates Foundation (CASA). He stated that CASA also submitted a late request for funding through the Human Services Advisory Board, which is not recommended by staff.

By consensus, Council concurred in the recommendation to allocate \$38,000.00 in CDBG funding to CASA.

Mr. Stovall advised that a question was previously raised by a Member of Council with regard to funding for the New Century Venture Center; whereupon, he stated that the recommended budget does not include funds for the New Century Venture Center.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that the New Century Venture Center has received grants, but no direct funds from the City of Roanoke, although the Center has requested funding for approximately the last five years. He stated that Roanoke County contributes \$1,000.00 annually to the organization, and the City Manager pointed out that Roanoke County is the only local jurisdiction that provides financial assistance.

By consensus, Council authorized \$1,000.00 to be allocated to the New Century Venture Center.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that Roanoke Emergency Medical Services (EMS), which is the volunteer partner of the City's EMS group, has experienced problems in connection with covering the assigned area from Fire Station No. 1 and has, therefore, requested additional funds. He stated that if the organization cannot meet the terms of the contract, the City may need to fund additional full time EMS employees and the Acting Chief of Fire/EMS will continue to study the matter.

The City Manager pointed out that the City anticipates receipt of the consultant's report on Fire/EMS operations within in the next 30 days, and the report may contain certain recommendations that will address the issue, or a different configuration of staffing.

Council Member Cutler called attention to various initiatives that were implemented by the City during his four year tenure on Council with regard to natural resources, parks, protection of the Roanoke River, the Master Plan and better management of Mill Mountain Park, and the City's assumption of responsibility for the Carvins Cove natural reserve as a City park. He referred to a map showing the boundaries of Carvins Cove National Reservoir Park which is a 12,000 acre park maintained by the City; and advised that the City Manager

supported an initiative involving the National Park Service, and other agency representatives initiated a Master Plan for Carvins Cove Park that should be continued and completed, to be followed by a detailed plan. He further advised that Mill Mountain Park, Carvins Cove Reservoir Park, Roanoke River Park and other major parks in the City of Roanoke have a great opportunity for conservation, recreation and economic development, and encouraged the City to move forward from the planning process to a management process that could involve more intensive activity, whether it be law enforcement, trail management, or modest structures over the next few years.

The Mayor advised that a communication will be included on the May 15, 2006 City Council agenda to initiate the process for demolition of Victory Stadium. He also advised that he has recommended to the City Manager that bricks from Victory Stadium be made available to the community, free of charge, as mementos, although a limit should be placed on the number of bricks per person, and the City should retain some of the bricks to be used in some form as a Victory Stadium memorial. He added that in moving forward, Council should signal to the community that the future design of the park will involve a commemoration of the fact that Victory Stadium was located on the site, along with some form of commemoration of Coach Bob "Guts" McClelland.

Council Member Cutler inquired if there are concerns with regard to a communication from Norfolk and Western Railway as to a future use of the Victory Stadium site; whereupon, the City Attorney advised that the only party who would have standing to invoke any portion of the deed restrictions would be the railroad, which has not chosen to become involved in the debate over the past several years.

The City Manager called attention to previous correspondence with Norfolk Southern Railway in which the City requested the Railway to relieve restricted covenants on the property; and the Railway was amenable to the request, but stated a preference not to do so until such time as a specific reuse of the property is identified.

The City Attorney advised that there has been considerable misinformation with regard to the letter from Norfolk & Western Railway, it is clear that there is no reversion provision, the property does not return to the railroad under any circumstance, and it has been stated that the City will maintain recreational uses on the site.

The City Manager called attention to Citizen's Appreciation Day which will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Valley View Mall and encouraged the Members of Council to attend the event.

There being no further business, at 11:35 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess until Thursday, May 11, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, for the purpose of considering measures to adopt the City of Roanoke's 2006-2007 fiscal year budget, the City's real estate tax rate, and tax rate increase(s).

The Council of the City of Roanoke reconvened on Thursday, May 11, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members M. Rupert Cutler, Sherman P. Lea, Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----5.

ABSENT: Vice-Mayor Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., and Council Member Alfred T. Dowe, Jr.-----2.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

The invocation was delivered by Mayor Harris.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Harris.

BUDGET: The Mayor advised that the purpose of the meeting was to adopt measures enacting the City of Roanoke's 2006-2007 fiscal year budget real estate tax rate, and cigarette tax increase.

BUDGET: The Director of Finance submitted a Certificate of Funding certifying that in accordance with paragraphs (h) and (i) of Section 25.1 of the Charter of the City of Roanoke, funds required for the 2006 - 2007 General Fund, Civic Facilities Fund, Parking Fund, Market Building Fund, Department of Technology Fund, Fleet Management Fund, Risk Management Fund, School Fund, School Food Services Fund, and Grant Fund budgets will be available for appropriation.

The Director of Finance advised that to date the State budget has not been adopted; a number of revenue estimates included in the recommended City's budget which is presently before the Council for adoption include revenues to be provided by the State; approximately 20 to 25 percent of the City's revenue source is derived from the State, therefore, should the State significantly change any revenues committed to the City in the proposed budget, Council will be requested to approve the necessary adjustments to the fiscal year 2006-2007 budget.

Without objection by Council, the Mayor advised that the Certificate of Funding would be received and filed.

PARKS AND RECREATION-FEE COMPENDIUM-LIBRARIES: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that in developing the budget for fiscal year 2006-2007, City departments were requested to look at fee structures and, where feasible, to propose fee schedule (compendium) changes that focus on recovering the cost of providing services.

It was further advised that the recommended fiscal year 2006-2007 budget incorporates proposed fee structure changes for copy charges, EMS Fee Structure and initiation of a Best Seller Book Rental program.

It was explained that currently, the charge for copies is \$0.05 per page or impression; and to fully recover the cost of making copies, the proposed amendment will result in the following structure:

Paper Size	Color Copy	Black and White Copy
8 1/2 x 11 (letter)	\$0.20 per impression	\$0.10 per impression
8 1/2 x 14 (legal)	\$0.25 per impression	\$0.15 per impression
11 x17	\$0.30 per impression	\$0.20 per impression

The City Manager advised that currently, EMS fees for Basic Life Support Emergency (\$280.00), Advanced Life Support Emergency (\$330.00), and Advanced Life Support Level 2 (\$475.00) are below the maximum allowed by Medicare; and an amendment to the fee structure will result in changing the following amounts:

	Proposed
Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency	\$300.00
Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency	\$360.00
Advanced Life Support (ALS) Level 2	\$550.00

It was noted that the Roanoke Public Library System will initiate a program to provide additional best seller books earlier to patrons who do not wish to wait for a book to become available; and the cost to patrons will be \$2.00 per book per week.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt the appropriate measures and amend the City's Fee Schedule (Compendium) to reflect the above referenced fee changes, effective July 1, 2006.

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37378-051106) A RESOLUTION amending the City's Fee Compendium imposing fees for accessing, duplicating, supplying, or searching for requested public records and copy charges within all City Departments; and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 275.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37378-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37379-051106) A RESOLUTION amending the City's Fee Compendium imposing certain fees for the provision of certain emergency medical services; and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 276.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37379-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37380-051106) A RESOLUTION establishing certain fees for the rental of best seller books from the City's libraries; and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 277.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37380-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS None-----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-CITY CODE-TAXES: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that given the fact that for the past few years, City assessments on real estate have increased at a rate above normal, consideration for a reduction in the real estate tax rate was referred to fiscal year 2006-2007 budget study; the increase in real estate tax rate assessments in recent years has been driven by the healthy real estate market; property sales have been positively impacted by low interest rates which attract borrowers; and Roanoke's assessment growth of recent years is consistent with real estate trends nationwide.

It was further advised that a reduction in the real estate tax rate from \$1.21 to \$1.19 per \$100.00 of assessed value is proposed; the proposed reduction of \$0.02 will result in a revenue reduction of approximately \$1,134,000.00; and to achieve revenue neutrality and to mitigate the impact of funding provided to Roanoke City Public Schools via the current funding formula, an increase in the cigarette tax of \$.0135 per cigarette (\$0.27 per 20 pack) is proposed, which will result in additional revenue of approximately \$1.5 million, of which approximately \$1.1 million will be used to offset the real estate tax rate reduction and the balance of \$.4 million will be used to provide debt service for a bond issuance of \$5 million for curb, gutter, sidewalks and bridge renovation.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance amending Section 32-16 of the City Code reducing the real estate tax rate from \$1.21 to \$1.19 per \$100.00 of assessed value, effective July 1, 2006; and adopt an additional ordinance amending Section 32-190 of the City Code to increase the cigarette tax from \$.0135 per cigarette to \$.027 per cigarette, effective July 1, 2006.

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37381-051106) AN ORDINANCE amending §32-16, Levied; rate, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, to provide for reduction of the real estate tax rate from \$1.21 on every one hundred dollars of fair market value to \$1.19 on every one hundred dollars of fair market value; providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 278.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37381-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS None-----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37382-051106) AN ORDINANCE amending and reordaining §32-190, Levied; amount, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, to provide for an increase in the cigarette tax rate from \$.0135 per cigarette to \$.027 per cigarette; providing for an effective date of July 1, 2006, and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 275.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37382-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS None-----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-CITY CODE-TAXES: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the initial Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Program for the City of Roanoke was made effective on July 1, 1989; since that time, several revisions have been made to the limits of the program, the latest of which was effective July 1, 2001; currently, the total combined annual household income threshold limit is \$30,000.00 and the net combined financial worth threshold, excluding the value of the primary residence, is \$100,000.00 for qualified real estate tax exemption; and given the fact that for the past few years, assessments on real estate have increased at a rate above normal, review of program eligibility guidelines was referred to fiscal year 2006-2007 budget study.

It was further advised that in evaluating revisions to eligibility guidelines, consideration was given to the change in the Consumer Price Index since the last revision to the guidelines; comparison was also made with regard to programs in place in Virginia's First Cities and in surrounding localities; and based on research, it is prudent to revise the total combined annual income threshold to \$34,000.00 and the net combined financial worth threshold to \$125,000.00.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance amending Section 32-86 of the City Code to increase the total combined annual income threshold to \$34,000.00 and to increase the net combined financial worth threshold to \$125,000.00 for qualification for real estate tax exemption for elderly and disabled persons for the tax year commencing July 1, 2007.

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37383-051106) AN ORDINANCE amending and reordaining §32-86, Financial eligibility, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by adding a new subsection (g) increasing from \$30,000.00 to \$34,000.00 the total combined annual income threshold and increasing from \$100,000.00 to \$125,000.00 the net combined financial worth threshold for qualification for real estate tax exemption for elderly and disabled persons for the tax year commencing July 1, 2007; amending current subsection (g) of §32-86, Financial eligibility, to redesignate such subsection as subsection (h); and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 279.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37383-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

CITY MARKET-BUDGET-GRANTS-FLEET MANAGEMENT-ROANOKE CIVIC CENTER-COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT-RISK MANAGEMENT FUND-SCHOOLS:

Council Member Cutler offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37384-051106) AN ORDINANCE adopting the annual General, Civic Facilities, Parking, Market Building, Department of Technology, Fleet Management, Risk Management, School, School Food Services and Grant Funds Appropriations of the City of Roanoke for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 279.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37384-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

POLICE DEPARTMENT-BUDGET-FIRE DEPARTMENT-COMMITTEES-CITY
SHERIFF-CITY EMPLOYEES: Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37385-051106) AN ORDINANCE to adopt and establish a Pay Plan for officers and employees of the City, effective July 1, 2006; providing for certain salary adjustments and merit increases; authorizing annual salary increments for certain officers and employees for use of private motor vehicles; authorizing annual salary increments for sworn police officers assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division; authorizing annual salary increments for certain members of the Fire-Emergency Medical Services Department who are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians; authorizing annual salary increments for certain members of the Fire-Emergency Medical Services Department who are members of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team; authorizing annual salary increments for employees performing fire inspector duties; providing for continuation of a police career enhancement program; providing for continuation of a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician merit pay program; providing for a Community Policing Specialist program; providing for payment of a monthly stipend to certain board and commission members; providing for an increase in base annual salary for any employee of the Sheriff who meets the qualifications for and has been appointed Master Deputy Sheriff; repealing, to the extent of any inconsistency, Ordinance No. 37047-051005, adopted May 10, 2005; providing for the salaries of the City's Constitutional Officers; providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 281.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37385-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-PENSIONS: The City Manager and the Director of Finance submitted a communication advising that retirees of the City of Roanoke Pension Plan (Plan) are awarded cost-of-living adjustments (COLAS) on an ad hoc basis by Council; the Plan does not include a provision for an automatic COLA due to the significant actuarial cost and related increase in contribution rates, thus, COLAS are not pre-funded in the Plan, but rather the increased cost is recognized when the increase has been awarded; factors considered as a part of the recommendation for a COLA include change in the Consumer Price Index, the amount of raises provided by similar Plans within the State, and most importantly, affordability to the Plan to assure that the Plan remains well funded to sustain the current level of benefits; and eligible members of the City of Roanoke Pension Plan received a 2.25% cost-of-living adjustment on July 1, 2005, which was the tenth consecutive COLA provided to eligible retirees.

It was further advised that all City employees are members of the Roanoke City Pension Plan (the Plan); the City's Plan, when compared to the State pension plan (The Virginia Retirement System) and other locality-sponsored Plans, provides above-average benefits; the City's plan also includes a provision for an additional supplement of \$3,105.00 (indexed) annually for employees with a minimum of 20 years of service; the supplement is intended to help offset the cost of health insurance and is paid until the retiree reaches age 65, the age of Medicare eligibility; additionally, the City sponsors a 457 Deferred Compensation Plan allowing employees the opportunity to save for retirement while reducing current taxable income; savings are enhanced by a City match of \$650.00 annually; and the City's pension plan, when coupled with the deferred savings plan and added to social security, provides a career employee with the opportunity to replace most of their pre-retirement income upon retirement.

It was explained that the required contribution rate for the pension plan to fund the current level of benefits will increase for fiscal year 2006 from 12.61 per cent to 15.11 per cent of payroll; the additional cost to the General Fund is approximately \$1,500,000.00; the rapidly rising increase in contribution rates is due to a combination of factors; a stock market downturn from 1999 to 2002 resulted in lesser investment returns for the Plan; additionally, significant enhancements were made to the Plan in 1999 and again in 2000; the above mentioned pension supplement was added to the Plan in 2001; the cumulative effect of granting annual COLAS adds significant cost to the Plan; and the combination of these factors has resulted in increasingly higher contribution rates to sustain the Plan.

It was stated that based on a poll of COLAS recommended, or to be recommended by other localities within the State, the Consumer Price Index and the City's ability to absorb increased funding to the Plan, a three per cent COLA appears to be reasonable; a recommended three per cent increase to eligible members of the Plan, effective July 1, 2006, will increase the average annual retirement allowance for eligible retirees by approximately \$382.00, or a total of an additional \$594,643.00 in annual benefits; the actuarial cost of a three per cent COLA is estimated at \$5.7 million funded over the next 20 years through the annual payroll contribution rate, which results in an increase of approximately \$378,000.00 in annual contributions to the Plan; all City operating funds, along with the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission, School Board, Roanoke Valley Resource Authority, Roanoke Valley Detention Commission, Western Virginia Water Authority, and the Commonwealth of Virginia will assume their pro rata cost for funding the COLA; and the City's pro rata share of the increase is approximately \$333,000.00 for fiscal year 2007.

It was explained that the recommended increase will apply to those retirees who retired on or before July 1, 2005, i.e., those retirees who have been retired for at least one year; approximately 1,555 of 1,634 retirees, or 95 per cent of those receiving benefits as of March 31, 2006, will be eligible for the increase; the increase will also apply to a member's or surviving spouse's annual retirement allowance; and the increase will not apply to any incentive payments made under the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program established by Ordinance No. 30473-41591, adopted April 15, 1991, or to the retirement supplement paid according to Section 22.2-61 of the Code.

It was noted that a request was also referred to fiscal year 2006-2007 budget study to consider a supplemental allowance for health insurance for City retirees who are 65 years of age or older; the Plan currently provides a monthly supplement of 75 per cent of the amount of the health insurance supplement provided to active employees, or \$258.75, to retirees with at least 20 years of service until age 65; the supplement is provided to complement the pension allowance until Medicare eligibility and is responsible for a significant portion of the overall cost of the Plan; upon reaching Medicare eligibility, retirees are eligible to begin receiving both hospital and medical benefits; and a new drug benefit program began in January 2006, Medicare Part D, that assists with outpatient prescription drugs.

The City Manager and the Director of Finance recommended that Council adopt an ordinance granting a three per cent cost of living adjustment for eligible retirees; the related cost to the City will be approximately \$333,000.00 in additional contributions to the Plan; and due to the significant increase in contributions currently required to sustain the current level of benefits and to provide a COLA, any benefit changes such as the requested supplemental allowance for health insurance above noted that would result in additional funding requirements for the pension plan is not recommended.

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37386-051106) AN ORDINANCE providing for certain supplemental benefits under the City of Roanoke Pension Plan to certain members of such Plan and certain of their surviving spouses; providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 283.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37386-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2007-2011 is a plan recommended for approval by Council for capital expenditures to be incurred over the next five years, in order to address the priority long-term capital needs of the City of Roanoke; the CIP reflects the current status of projects which have previously been approved and funded by Council, and is a revision to the Fiscal Years 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program approved by Council on May 10, 2005; and the CIP also reflects all planned future debt issuance for projects included in the upcoming five year period.

It was further advised that on April 17, 2006, Council received the proposed Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2007-2011 as part of the Recommended Resource Allocation Plan; the Capital Improvement Program Summary Section in the document provides a summary of projects; the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2007-2011 is comprised of capital projects, with an estimated cost of project completion totaling \$235,349,986.00; the CIP includes the addition of the Police Academy, Library Study, Streetscape Improvements, and Market District Plan projects; and also reflects additional funding for curb, gutter, sidewalks, and bridge renovation via debt issuance of \$5 million funded from an increase in the cigarette tax.

It was explained that adjustments have been made since the Recommended Resource Allocation Plan was presented; and adjustments reflect the following revisions to the Roanoke City Public Schools CIP which was adopted by the School Board on May 9, 2006.

- An increase in the cost of the high school renovation projects (Patrick Henry High School, \$1,375,000.00, and William Fleming High School, \$625,000.00). The increase in costs will be funded from School capital reserve (cash funds);
- A change in the timing of expenditures for the Patrick Henry High School renovation project;
- The addition of stadiums at Patrick Henry High School and William Fleming High School;
- Exclusion of elementary school renovation projects involving classroom additions;

- It should be noted that the School CIP contains a future issuance of \$2,000,000.00 in Virginia Public School Authority (VPSA) bonds for renovations at Raleigh Court Elementary School; this debt issuance is not included in the City's CIP as it is above the level of school debt agreed to when the cost of the high school renovation projects increased during FY 2003-2004; the School Board must request approval to add the issuance of this debt to the City's CIP.

It was noted that debt will be issued during fiscal year 2006-2007 for the following projects:

Patrick Henry High School	\$7,500,000.00
Elementary School Renovations	\$7,010,900.00
- Fallon Park	(\$1,160,900.00)
- Westside	(\$3,850,000.00)
- Monterey	(\$2,000,000.00)

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt a resolution endorsing the update to the CIP; and appropriate \$2,829,891.00 included in the FY 2006-2007 Transfer to Capital Projects Fund, Account No. 01-250-9310-9508, to the respective capital projects accounts established by the Director of Finance for the following projects:

- \$500,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-530-9552 for Bridge Maintenance
- \$139,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-530-9823 for Police Academy Construction and A&E
- \$49,820.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-530-9736 for Stormwater Management
- \$310,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-530-9575 for Transportation Projects
- \$430,896.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-510-9620 for Roanoke River Flood Reduction
- \$100,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 35-615-8119 for Home Investment Partnership Program Match
- \$300,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-615-9862 for Market Rate Purchase Rehabilitation

- \$175,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-615-9863 for Market Rate Mortgage Assistance
- \$100,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-615-9864 for a Housing Initiatives Consultant
- \$100,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-615-9867 for a Housing Pattern Book
- \$385,000.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-530-9837 for Police Building Demolition
- \$50,673.00 to Capital Project Account No. 17-440-2642 for Fleet Replacement
- \$94,751.00 to Capital Project Account No. 13-430-1602 for Technology
- \$94,751.00 to Capital Project Account No. 08-440-9854 for Capital Building Maintenance

The City Manager further recommended that Council appropriate \$1,100,000.00 of residual equity from the close-out of Water and Sewer funds to:

- Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority - Virginia Scrap Iron Virginia Remediation Program,
Account No. 08-310-9688 - \$100,000.00
- Riverside Centre – Streetscape,
Account No. 08-530-9838 - \$200,000.00
- Gateway Streetscape,
Account No. 08-530-9847 - \$100,000.00
- Downtown and Village Streetscape,
Account No. 08-530-9849 - \$300,000.00
- Market District Plan,
Account No. 09-310-8134 - \$200,000.00
- Code Enforcement Program,
Account No. 08-615-9868 - \$70,000.00
- Capital Project Contingency,
Account No. 08-530-9575 - \$130,000.00

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37387-051106) A RESOLUTION endorsing the update to the Capital Improvement Program submitted by the City Manager by letter of May 11, 2006.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 284.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37387-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

Council Member Cutler offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37388-051106) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding for the FY 2007-2011 Update to the Capital Improvement Program, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2006-2007 General, Capital Projects, Market Building, Department of Technology, Fleet Management, and Grant Funds Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 288.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37388-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-Y.M.C.A.-GREENWAY SYSTEM: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that beginning in fiscal year 2002, the City of Roanoke committed to a \$2.0 million investment, to be paid in \$200,000.00 increments over a ten-year period to the Downtown Family YMCA; funds cover costs associated with the design and construction of a new central branch YMCA complex; and City residents will receive a discounted membership rate, which will allow them to visit any YMCA facility, including the facility in the City of Salem.

It was further advised that beginning in fiscal year 2002, the City of Roanoke also committed to contributing \$200,000.00 per year for ten years for a total of \$2.0 million to the Roanoke River Greenways project and greenways development; greenways have become a necessary commodity for communities across the United States since they are viewed as an essential amenity that encourages economic development; greenways connect people to various aspects of a community such as parks, shops, schools and neighborhoods; the City of Roanoke currently has several greenway projects underway in various stages of development, with a core design element to include connections to Roanoke's primary greenway artery, the Roanoke River Greenway; and significant progress has been made in the construction of the greenway system which includes the Mill Mountain Greenway, the Lick Run Greenway, the Murray Run Greenway and the Roanoke River Greenway.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance appropriating \$200,000.00 from the Economic and Community Development Reserve to the Downtown Family YMCA, Account No. 08-620-9757-9003, and appropriating \$200,000.00 from the Economic and Community Development Reserve to Greenways Development, Account No. 08-620-9753-9003.

Council Member Cutler offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37389-051106) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Economic and Community Development Reserve for the YMCA Aquatic Center and the Greenways Development Projects, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2006-2007 Capital Projects Fund Appropriations and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 290.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37389-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-ENTERPRISE ZONE: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the new Virginia Enterprise Zone program was established by the General Assembly in 2005 through the Virginia Enterprise Zone Act; an Enterprise Zone is a geographically defined area designated by the Governor; the State and local government must enter into a ten year partnership to encourage business expansion and recruitment by offering both State and local incentives; the City of Roanoke currently has two zone boundaries, Zone 1A and Zone 2; the main difference is that the facade grant is available only in Zone 1A and maximum caps differ slightly for certain incentives; and the zones expire on December 31, 2023 for Zone 1A and on December 31, 2015, for Zone 2.

It was further advised that a requirement of designation is that the City of Roanoke must offer certain local incentives which were set forth in the original application and subsequent amendments approved by Council; and in order for the City of Roanoke to continue to offer local incentives as set forth in the designation application and subsequent amendments, an annual appropriation of funds is needed.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance transferring \$280,000.00 from the Economic and Community Development Reserve to the following accounts:

- Account No. 08-310-9630-9003, (Enterprise Zone Rebates) - \$100,000.00
- Account No. 08-310-97369003 (Enterprise Zone Facade Grants) - \$150,000.00
- Account No. 08-310-9738-9003 (Enterprise Zone Fee Grants) - \$30,000.00

Council Member Cutler offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37390-051106) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Economic and Community Development Reserve for the Enterprise Zone Projects, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2006-2007 Capital Projects Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 289.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37390-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that in order to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funding, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that localities such as the City of Roanoke submit a five-year *Consolidated Plan (CP) and Annual Updates (AU)*; the City's current, HUD-approved five-year CP covers the period from July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2010, and was developed through an extensive process beginning in the spring of 2003; public participation in the CP included community representatives on the Plan's steering committee, public meetings to obtain community input, information disseminated to the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates (RNA), information made available on the City's website, including the ability to provide comments through e-mail, information in the print media and announcements to a mailing list of more than 400 organizations and individuals.

It was further advised that in a letter dated March 31, 2006, Council Members received a summary version of the draft 2006-2007 Annual Update (AU) to the City's HUD Consolidated Plan, which included the tentative CDBG, HOME and ESG funding recommendations for fiscal year 2006-2007 and related information; comparable information was also provided to City Council on April 17, 2006, as part of the Recommended Resource Allocation Plan; as with the five-year CP, outreach to engage the public in the 2006-2007 AU process took several forms; public meetings were held on November 3, 2005 and March 30, 2006, as well as a City Council public hearing on April 27, 2006; those attending the March 30th meeting received the same summary version of the AU provided to City Council; the summary plan was made available on the City's website, with links to the full five-year plan and to allow e-mail comments on

the documents; the summary was also provided to RNA members and neighboring localities; letters to the mailing list provided information about upcoming meetings, how to obtain additional information and how to comment, and ads were placed in *The Roanoke Times* and *The Roanoke Tribune*; and copies of the complete draft 2006-2007 AU were placed at all library branches and the Law Library, the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority main offices, the City Clerk's Office and the Department of Management and Budget for public inspection for a 30-day period beginning April 4, 2006.

It was further advised that funding for fiscal year 2006-2007 will be available from the following sources:

New HUD Entitlements	\$2,665,532.00
Estimated New Program Income	455,431.00
Local HOME Match Funds	100,000.00
Estimated Prior Year Excess Program Income	365,000.00
Estimated Prior Year Carry-over	<u>144,515.00</u>
Total HUD Funds	\$3,730,478.00

To ensure that the City's HUD fiscal year begins on July 1, 2006, it was noted that HUD must receive the Annual Update by May 16, 2006.

The City Manager recommended that Council approve the 2006-2007 Annual Update, as abstracted in an attached summary, and that the City Manager, or her designee, be authorized to submit the complete Annual Update to HUD for final review and approval, including execution of all necessary documents pertaining thereto, such documents to be approved as to form by the City Attorney.

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37391-051106) A RESOLUTION approving the 2006-2007 Annual Update ("Annual Update") to the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan and authorizing the City Manager, or the City Manager's designee, to submit the approved Annual Update to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") for final review and approval, and authorizing the execution of all necessary documents pertaining to such Annual Update.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 275.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37391-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lea.

Council Member Wishneff advised that he may, or may not, be retained by Kuumba Community Health & Wellness Center to search for a new location; therefore, he stated that he would abstain from voting on the abovereferenced resolution.

Resolution No. 37391-051106 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, and Mayor Harris-----4.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Member Wishneff abstained from voting.) (Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

BUDGET-CITY CODE-CITY EMPLOYEES: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that City employees who utilize their personal vehicles in the performance of City of Roanoke business are currently reimbursed at a rate of \$.325 per mile for the first 15,000 miles and \$.13 per mile for all additional miles over 15,000 per fiscal year; and the rate was approved by Council on July 3, 2000, when Council set the rate at the rate established from time to time by the Commonwealth of Virginia for reimbursing State employees for such purpose.

It was further advised that historically, the City of Roanoke has set its mileage reimbursement rate at the same level established by the Commonwealth of Virginia for State employees (as provided in the City Code), however, in consideration of the increase in the cost of motor fuels, it is recommended that the Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rate for reimbursement for business use be adopted by the City of Roanoke; the current Internal Revenue Service rate is \$.445 per mile; use of the Internal Revenue Service rate for mileage reimbursement results in the use of the Internal Revenue Service rate for meals, lodging and mileage; and sufficient funding is budgeted in departmental accounts for fiscal year 2007.

The City Manager recommended that Council authorize amendment of Section 2-35, "Use of Personal Automobile for City Business - Mileage Allowance", of the City Code, to establish that the City of Roanoke mileage reimbursement rate will be and subsequently remain at the same level as established from time to time by the Internal Revenue Service for reimbursement for business use.

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37392-051106) AN ORDINANCE amending '2-35, Use of personal automobile for city business- Mileage allowance, of Article III, Officers and Employees, Chapter 2, Administration, of the Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, in order to link the mileage allowance paid to employees of the City for use of their personal vehicles on City business to the Internal Revenue Service's reimbursement rate per mile for business use; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 290.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37392-051106. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member Dowe were absent.)

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor expressed appreciation to City staff for developing a budget for the City of Roanoke that is both responsive and responsible. He stated that the 2007 fiscal year budget reduces the real estate tax rate by two cents, and the loss of revenue will be offset by an increase in the cigarette tax; and ten additional police officer positions are funded in the budget, as well as a number of other initiatives.

The City Manager was requested to review revisions to the fiscal year budget as a result of actions that were taken by the Council during budget study on Thursday, May 4, 2006.

The City Manager advised that the May 4 budget study session resulted in approximately \$80,000.00 of changes to the fiscal year 2007 budget. She stated that her original recommendation to reduce the appropriation to the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau budget by \$60,000.00 was later changed by the Council to a \$30,000.00 reduction, a contribution of \$1,000.00 was approved for the New Century Venture Center, a part-time position was authorized to monitor the condition of the escalator and the general condition of the walkway between The Hotel Roanoke and downtown Roanoke, as well as to respond to questions and provide direction to visitors, in the amount of \$17,000.00, and the Council reinstated additional Deputy Clerk II position to the budget of the Clerk of Circuit Court.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Mary F. Parker
City Clerk

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor
